

**BDCP Implementation Structure/Governance Working Group
Purpose Statement and Implementation Elements
(Draft April 18, 2008)**

Purpose

The purpose of the Implementation Structure/Governance Working Group is to formulate recommendations to the Steering Committee concerning the institutional mechanisms and the assignment of responsibilities for purposes of implementing the BDCP.

Implementation Elements

The Working Group has begun this task by identifying the roles, functions, authorities, and responsibilities that would need to be vested in an entity or multiple entities to ensure successful implementation of the BDCP. The following outline sets out those implementation elements.

I. Administration of the BDCP

- Overall program administration (hiring, staffing and contract administration)
- Budgeting and spending
- Contracting
- Securing, holding, and managing funds for implementation of the conservation plan
- Coordinating with plan participants
- Coordinating with DFG, FWS, NMFS
- Coordinating with other local, state, and federal agencies
- Protecting against liability (including capacity to obtain legal representation)

II. Implementation of the Conservation Strategy

- Acquiring and/or leasing property interests
- Managing lands (e.g., habitat management, invasive species control, trash removal, security, etc.)
- Implementing specific conservation and mitigation measures, including restoration of habitat
- Maintaining lands, facilities, and improvements (e.g., buildings, fences, levees, roads, etc.)
- BDCP-related SWP/CVP conveyance operations
- Implementing adaptive management program
- Implementing monitoring and research program (e.g., effectiveness monitoring)

May 2, 2008

III. Regulatory Compliance

- Implementing plan compliance monitoring and reporting program (e.g., monitoring results, implementation of conservation actions, etc.)
- Obtaining regulatory permits for plan implementation actions
- Conducting environmental review

IV. Public Outreach

- Outreach and public education program

Approach to Development of Implementation Elements

Section 2.8 of the Points of Agreement recognizes that the BDCP will describe a structure and schedule for implementing the plan itself. It anticipates the formation of an entity or entities to assume responsibility for implementing the plan, including the habitat program, the conveyance program, the adaptive management and monitoring program, and plan funding, oversight and reporting. A variety of options may be appropriate for shaping a reliable, effective and efficient implementation regime for the BDCP and its several program components. The Working Group may elect to approach the topic comprehensively, seeking to design an overall single entity with broad responsibilities for the plan in its entirety, or it may elect to approach the governance topic on a program element-by-element basis, reflecting that implementation structures and responsibilities for habitat restoration, conveyance, exotic species and water quality may differ.

Schedule

The Governance Working Group will coordinate closely with the other working groups and technical teams charged with the formulating the content of the substantive plan elements to ensure that the implementation structures and strategies are well suited to those substantive plan elements. Hence, the work of the group will continue over the course of the planning effort as the substantive program elements take shape.